United Nations

A/60/739

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 March 2006

Original: English

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 120
Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Letter dated 27 March 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We are honoured to forward to you the report of the Workshop on Human Security, held under the joint auspices of the Governments of Japan and Mexico in Mexico City on 9 and 10 February 2006 (see annex).

The purpose of the Workshop was to provide an opportunity for substantive discussion of the concept of human security based on the 2003 report of the Commission on Human Security, entitled "Human security now: protecting and empowering people". The Workshop was widely attended by representatives from Governments, international organizations, civil society and academia, who engaged in a fruitful debate on various aspects of human security, such as sovereignty, armed conflict, reconstruction, migration, development and civil society. The report does not necessarily reflect the official position of each and every Government represented at the Workshop.

We believe that sharing the report with Member States and the Secretariat will contribute to the deliberations in the General Assembly on the follow-up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome. In this regard, we would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Enrique **Berruga**
Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

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Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 27 March 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Report of the Workshop on Human Security, organized by the Government of Mexico, in cooperation with the Government of Japan
Mexico City, February 9th and 10th, 2006

Background

1. The first discussions on the concept of human security were held in the United Nations in the late 1980's. However, it was until 1994 that the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) further elaborated on the concept in its Human Development Report by identifying it as a concern for life and human dignity.[1]

2. UNDP was the first international body to promote the concept of human security in the post-Cold War era. Several governments, academic institutions, international organizations and non-governmental organizations have also worked to further the concept. Nevertheless, there is still no precise and inclusive definition of the concept of human security, making it necessary to continue to discuss what has been said and what actions have been taken in an effort to find common elements that could help the international community to reach a comprehensive definition, and to institutionalize a multilateral strategy needed to achieve it, particularly in the context of the United Nations.

3. As indicated by UNDP, the founders of the United Nations recognized two main components of human security: freedom from fear and freedom from want.[2] However, in the context of the Cold War, the concept of security was tilted in favor of territorial security. As a result of this, one of the goals of the 1994 Human Development Report was to enlarge the concept of security from territorial security to people's security, from security from armaments to security through sustainable human development.

4. According to the Report, there are certain characteristics necessary for the consideration of the concept of human security, mainly:
   - Human security is a universal concern;
   - The components of human security are interdependent;
   - Human security is easier to ensure through early prevention, and
   - Human security is people centered.

5. With regards to a definition for human security, the Report mentions two main aspects of the concept. The first is safety from chronic threats, such as hunger, disease and repression. The second aspect is the protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life, such as natural disasters.

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[1] United Nations Development Program. Human Development Report 1994. "New Dimensions of Human Security". New York. Oxford University Press. p. 22.
[2] Idem. p. 3.

6. In his Millennium Report to the United Nations, the UN Secretary General emphasized that a new understanding of the concept of security was evolving; instead of being limited to the protection of a State's borders, it now encompasses the protection of communities and individuals from internal violence During the 2000 UN Millennium Summit, Secretary-General Kofi Annan called upon the international community to advance the goals of "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want".,[3]

7. As a result, the Commission on Human Security was launched in 2001, with the blessing of the Secretary-General. The Commission was Co-Chaired by Sadako Ogata, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees and Amartya Sen, Economics Nobel Laureate. The Commission also received financial support from the Government of Japan, the Government of Sweden, the World Bank, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Japan Center for International Exchange.

8. The Commission on Human Security had three main goals:
   - To promote public understanding, engagement and support of human security and its underlying imperatives;
   - To develop the concept of human security as an operational tool for policy formulation and implementation, and
   - To propose a concrete program of action to address critical and pervasive threats to human security.[4]

9. In May 2003, the Commission presented its report "Human Security Now, Protecting and Empowering People" to the UN Secretary General.[5] The report proposed a new framework of security that centers directly and specifically on people. According to the Commission, the concept of human security focuses on protecting people from critical and pervasive threats and empowers people to take act on their own behalf.[6]

10. In its report, the Commission addressed a number of interrelated issues concerning conflict and poverty and thus, promoted greater convergence of both freedom from fear and freedom from want. The five main issues identified in the report were: protecting people in conflict and post-conflict situations, shielding people forced to move, overcoming economic insecurities, guaranteeing essential health care, and ensuring universal education.[7]

11. The report stated that human security means:

> Protecting vital freedoms. It means protecting people from critical and pervasive threats and situations, building on their strengths and aspirations. It also means creating systems that give people the building blocks of survival, dignity and livelihood. Human Security connects different types of freedoms –freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to take action on one's own behalf. To do this, it offers two general strategies: protection and empowerment. Protection shields people from dangers. It requires concerted effort to

[3] "We the Peoples, the Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century". Millennium Report of the Secretary General of the United Nations. A/54/2000. March 3, 2000, p. 43.
[4] Information obtained from the Commission's website: www.humansecurity-chs.org. January 30, 2005.
[5] Commission on Human Security "Human Security Now. Protecting and Empowering People". New York. 2003.
[6] Idem, p. 2.
[7] Idem. Foreword.

develop norms, processes and institutions that systematically address insecurities. Empowerment enables people to develop their potential and become full participants in decision-making. Protection and empowerment are mutually reinforcing, and both are required in most situations.

Human Security at the regional and national levels

Organization of American States

12. At the regional level, the Organization of American States has been discussing the concept of hemispheric security since 1945, when the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace proposed a plan to respond to the security needs of the region.[8] Nevertheless, the discussion was limited to a traditional approach of the concept of security, in the context of the Cold War.

13. On 2001, the Third Summit of the Americas gathered 34 leaders of the region to address common hemispheric issues and challenges that included improved access to education, poverty alleviation, strengthening human rights and democracy and economic integration. The resulting Declaration of Quebec City determined the region's priorities and goals for the upcoming years, which recognized the need to "continue addressing weaknesses in the development processes and increasing human security".[9]

14. On October 2003, as a result of the Special Conference on Security held in Mexico under the auspices of the OAS, the Declaration on Security in the Americas was adopted. The Declaration defines hemispheric security as:

> multidimensional in scope, includes traditional and new threats, concerns, and other challenges to the security of the states of the Hemisphere, incorporates the priorities of each state, contributes to the consolidation of peace, integral development, and social justice, and is based on democratic values, respect for and promotion and defense of human rights, solidarity, cooperation, and respect for national sovereignty.[10]

15. This concept recognizes that security cannot be seen solely as the capacity of States to confront threats at the international level, but it is seen as a group of conditions that guarantee the wellbeing of individuals within the State. Through this logic, international security is based on State security, which is based on the security of its population.

16. In addition, the Declaration further states:

> In our Hemisphere, as democratic states committed to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the OAS, we reaffirm that the basis and purpose of security is the protection of human beings. Security is strengthened when we deepen its human dimension. Conditions for human security are improved through full respect for people's

[8] Declaration on Security in the Americas, adopted at the third plenary session of October 28, 2003. OEA/Ser.K/XXXVIII, CES/DEC. 1/03 rev.1

[9] Declaration of Quebec City, Third Summit of the Americas, April 2001

[10] Idem, art. 2.

> dignity, human rights, and fundamental freedoms, as well as the promotion of social and economic development, social inclusion, and education and the fight against poverty, disease, and hunger.[11]

17. This multidimensional definition of security not only brings together traditional threats to security but also an approach to security which is based on the individual. Among the realms covered by hemispheric security we can find: personal security, communitarian security, political security, economic security, nutritional security, health security and environmental security. Through these, the regional concept of security demands answers that imply the creation of political, economic, social and cultural systems that guarantee the basic elements of survival and dignity for the human being.

African Union

18. The effort to establish a security framework in Africa that is both comprehensive and coherent is recent. However, the origins of this concept can be found in African philosophy dating back from the 1960s. The 1991 OAU Kampala declaration "Towards a Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA)" states that:

> Security embraces all aspects of the society including economic, political and social dimensions of individual, family, community, local and national life. The security of a nation must be constructed in terms of the security of the individual citizen to live in peace with access to basic necessities of life while fully participating in the affairs of his/her society in freedom and enjoying all fundamental human rights.[12]

19. During the Lomé Summit in 2000, the Heads of State and Government participating in this Summit agreed to establish a framework for codifying into national laws and legislation the concept of human security.

20. In practice however, the majority of African governments have continued to consider issue of security mainly in terms of protecting the State, its institutions and borders. The initiatives that have been put into place focus mainly on protection against violence and physical insecurity, for example by addressing the circulation of light weapons, the use of anti-personnel mines and child soldiers.[13]

21. In order to address the concept of human security in Africa, special emphasis must be placed in the link between human security and human development, including the eradication of extreme poverty and sustainable development.[14]

22. Recent efforts at achieving human security in Africa include the creation of the African Union Peace and Security Council, and the ECOWAS Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security.[15]

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[11] Idem, art. 4, e.

[12] Karim Hussein, Donata Gnisci and Julia Wanjiru, "Security and Human Security: An Overview of Concepts and Initiatives", December 2004, p. 15.

[13] Idem, p. 22.

[14] "Peace, Human Security and Conflict Prevention in Africa", UNESO-ISS Expert Meeting, Pretoria, South Africa, July 2001.

[15] Idem, p. 8.

European Union

23. Over the last few years, the European Union has been developing a common security policy, resulting in the European Security Strategy (ESS), which advocates preventive engagement and effective multilateralism.[16] The ESS encompasses three main elements: 1. A set of seven principles for operations in situations of severe insecurity that apply to both ends and means; 2. A Human Security Response Force, and 3. A new legal framework to govern both the decision to intervene and operations on the ground.[17]

24. In order to apply the concept of human security effectively in Europe, the root causes of conflicts have to be addressed. Among these factors are focusing on human rights, democracy, participation and accountability; European trade policy; the EU's commitment to multilateralism; the fight against HIV/AIDS, and financing for development.[18]

Other initiatives including following-up the World Summit Outcome

25. In recent years, several States have continued the work begun by UNDP and have promoted the view that contemporary security challenges have changed fundamentally from those of the past, bringing new promises as well as new threats.[19]

26. It has been argued that international security can no longer be defined exclusively in terms of the relationships between States; rather, it should be viewed as a commitment to put human life, human dignity, security and the wellbeing of peoples first. By broadening this focus, human security encompasses a wide range of elements to prevent and resolve violent conflict, to protect civilians in armed conflict and to increase the capacity of States to ensure the security of their people.[20]

27. It has also been emphasized that the concept of human security should be discussed by a wide and multidisciplinary alliance of national and international authorities, civil society and non-governmental organizations.

28. Following the mandate contained in the World Summit Outcome Document (A/60/1), to "*discuss and define the notion of human security in the General Assembly*", the Mexican Government decided to organize a two-day workshop aimed at having an inclusive, representative and open-ended discussion on the concept of Human Security, having as a basis for the discussion, inter alia, the report of the Commission on Human Security to the Secretary General. The main purpose was to provide elements of the concept that could be a useful tool for future discussions within the General Assembly.

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[16] "A Human Security Doctrine for Europe. The Barcelona Report of the Study Group on Europe's Security Capabilities", Presented to the EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, Javier Solana, Barcelona, 15 September 2004.

[17] Ibid.

[18] "Human Security. Placing Development at the Heart of the EU's External Relations", briefing document prepared by Dr. Sven Grimm of Overseas Development Institute for Dóchas Irish EU Presidency Project, 2004.

[19] Freedom from fear. Canada's foreign policy for human security: http://www.humansecurity.gc.ca/freedom_from_fearen.asp, January 30, 2006.

[20] Ibid.

29. The Workshop was co-chaired by the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Luis Ernesto Derbez, and the Japanese Ambassador for Human Security, Ambassador Yukio Takasu. It brought together representatives from Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, El Salvador, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United States of America and Uruguay, as well as academic experts, representatives of international organizations and civil society.

30. The summary of the debate held during the Workshop is presented under the same topics of the six round tables that composed the agenda of the meeting and does not prejudice or prioritize any of the issues discussed. Likewise, it does not necessarily reflect the official position of each and every Government that was represented at the Workshop.

31. Other additional information can be made available by requesting it to the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations.

I. Sovereignty and Human Security

32. The traditional definition of State security, as understood during the Cold War period has been largely surpassed in the last years. States are struggling with global phenomena, such as hunger, poverty or epidemics, putting the individual at the center of this debate. While the State has the primary responsibility to protect its citizens from these crises, international cooperation has become crucial to overcome them.

33. In this regard, human security is based on an intrinsic relationship between the individual, the State and the international community. It also entails the sources of state legitimacy and the responsibilities of the State towards its people, particularly in the areas of development, human rights and democracy.

34. As a consequence of the emphasis that some sectors have put on the human costs that result from internal violence or armed conflict and its links with the responsibility of the international community to protect populations, human security is often presented as incompatible with the sovereignty of the State. However, it lies at its very core.

35. The responsibility to protect is based on a strong vision of sovereignty—one that acknowledges that the State bears the primary responsibility to protect its population. However, as States have acknowledged at the world summit, the international community cannot sit idle in the face of large-scale systematic violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

36. The concept of the Responsibility to Protect is characterized by three components: the responsibility to prevent conflict, to react to end it when it occurs, and to rebuild post-conflict countries. Preventing conflict before it occurs clearly affords the greatest protection to people, and attention must therefore be given first to planning and strengthening national and international capacities to prevent the outbreak of conflict through combined means, including State capacity-building,

empowerment of people, development programs, humanitarian assistance and human rights monitoring. When such means fail, and as a last resort to protect civilians, the World Summit Outcome endorses the Security Council-authorized use of Chapter VII force in the case of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The international community also has a concomitant responsibility to work to rebuild and reconstruct post-conflict states and to prevent the recurrence of conflict through long-term development.

37. It is important to note that, in spite of the positive steps that the international community has taken to ensure the protection of human rights, and as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, a number of States have tried to restrict human rights and justify international law violations for security reasons. As a consequence, the multilateral system is further weakened when States do not respect their international obligations, undermine international humanitarian law, human rights and refugee law, and refuse to hold accountable those who may violate them. The promotion of such obligations through government, military and civil society actors is a critically important part of human security.

II. Armed Conflict and Human Security

38. The unprecedented activity of the international community and the engagement of the United Nations in peace and security matters have led to a significant decline in the number of armed conflicts throughout the world in the last decades.

39. Most of the conflicts are now internal rather than international, based on divisions between factions within a State, and may spill over beyond international borders. In addition, the factors that cause most current armed conflicts deviate significantly from traditional ones, e.g., competition over land and resources, sudden and deep political and economic transitions; growing inequality among people and communities; weak and unstable political systems and institutions, questions of identity intertwined with heavy historic legacies. In an environment of uncertainty, the interdependence between the security of the individual and the state of international peace and security is stronger and more immediate than ever.

40. States can ensure human security in the context of armed conflict in three stages:

- Before the conflict: *Preventive measures* should include the promotion of political, social, economic and cultural rights; programs on education for peace, early warning systems, combating arms trafficking – for instance putting in place an efficient tracing system of small and light arms -; strengthening the existing human rights norms and ensuring widespread knowledge and better respect for international humanitarian law, such as the prohibition of children participating in hostilities, anti-personal mines, etc; ensuring the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; the establishment of cooperation programs for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and of an effective legal framework aiming to prevent and repress the recruitment and training of mercenaries; the use of preventive peacekeeping deployments, pro-active diplomatic initiatives including mediation and good offices, and the effective use of targeted sanctions and expert panels.
- During conflict: *Containment measures* such as the full implementation of international humanitarian law, human rights and refugee law to protect civilians, including through implementation of relevant Security Council

resolutions on protection of civilians; the Responsibility to Protect; avoiding the use of antipersonnel mines, and ensuring safe and unhindered access of independent, neutral and impartial humanitarian personnel to vulnerable populations.

- Post conflict: *Reconciliatory measures* such as the deployment of fact finding missions, prosecuting war criminals, ensuring the rule of law and supporting the safe return of international displaced persons and refugees.

41. In the same manner, the international community can implement human security through:
    - Encouraging the use of mediation and other forms of peaceful settlement of disputes.
    - Developing a case-by-case analysis for the creation of each peace mission, establishing the path for a coordinated action with the State, ensuring the implementation of a fact-based strategy on the ground and promoting the understanding of the cultural background of the affected communities.
    - Addressing the dangers causing the deaths of millions of civilian victims from secondary causes of armed conflict, notably lack of access to health care or food, among others.

III. Reconstruction and Human Security

42. Even though the process leading to lasting peace varies significantly from conflict to conflict, rehabilitation and reconstruction must be at its core. In order make it a success, special emphasis must be given to the multidimensional nature of the reconstruction and rehabilitation processes.

43. In general, the lack of attention of public policies to human dimensions lies at the very heart of the causes of most conflicts. Rebuilding state-institutions that make society functional, protect the freedom and the dignity of its citizens and empower people are essential for sustainable peace. Political peace depends on economic and social development, and vice versa.

44. Human security must be at the core of reconstruction processes through:
    - Early and comprehensive action in the fields of human development, human rights and democracy building.
    - During peace talks, political agreements must include and implement social agreements aimed at the safety of the individual, i.e. promoting human security.
    - State-Building must be based on three pillars: political processes (elections, governance and rule of law), safety and security, and safety and development through community based programs and national strategies.
    - While promoting domestic capacity-building, States must ensure multi-sectorial coordination and the safety of international and humanitarian personnel.
    - Ensuring the implementation of an effective Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration program as an integral part of overall security sector reform.
    - Promoting the creation of local non-governmental organizations and reestablishing the local community.
    - Global civil society and international organizations must take human security as a central reference in the international cooperation field.

45. The International Community can guarantee a successful reconstruction process by implementing the following measures:
    - Promoting debt relief initiatives for affected developing countries.
    - Enhancing Official Development Assistance.
    - Giving priority to education programs.

46. The newly created Peace Building Commission of the United Nations represents a unique opportunity to give due consideration to the human security approach in post conflict situations within the multilateral system, as it is the first body that interlinks clearly the security and the development areas. The Peace Building Commission has a challenging task in putting Human Security at the center of future debates as an essential condition for sustainable peace.

IV. Migration and Human Security

47. Migration is a multidimensional phenomenon that has repercussions in both the areas of security and development. It is an increasing challenge related with globalization and the specific needs of populations that cannot be addressed individually by States.

48. Most people who leave their homes do so because they seek to improve their livelihoods, want to reunite with their family members, or because they are forced to leave as a result of the political or economic context in their homes. Thus, for many people, migration and internal displacement are a means in itself to attain human security, even if the security they seek might be at risk along their journey.

49. There are basically four kinds of movements of persons: 1) migrant workers: skilled migrants whose migration is institutionalized by the destination country (brain drain) and unskilled migrants, generally undocumented and more prone to situations of abuse; 2) refugees and asylum seekers that are compelled to leave their country due to persecutions or threats to their safety by States and non State actors; 3) internally displaced persons, composed of people who have left their homes for reasons that include conflict, natural disaster and food insecurity; 4) trafficked persons who are sometimes wrongly perceived as criminals.

50. Migration and development are inter-related. As long as there are imbalances between labor demand and supply, people seeking to improve their livelihoods will move for work, either internally or across States. However, it must be recognized that migration is a process that also empowers people and creates new opportunities for both people and States alike. Therefore, migrants can be a financial boost to their economies of origin and destination, alleviating poverty and supplementing the efforts of governments, through remittances and by fulfilling the labor market demand in the receiving States.

51. Despite this positive aspect, receiving countries tend to perceive migrant workers, especially undocumented migrants, as a threat to their security, particularly when they are faced with large numbers of migrants. As a result, governments close their borders or prevent people from reaching safety in their State. More recently, efforts to combat terrorism have tightened border security, making migrants more vulnerable to human rights violations.

52. The transnational impact of criminal organizations dedicated to human and drug trafficking or to terrorism, that take advantage of the vulnerability of migrant groups is a phenomenon that is directly affecting regions and the international community as a whole.

53. This situation is worsened at two different levels: on one hand, destination States many times design migration policies that are strictly focused on the security and the sovereignty of the State; on the other, origin and transit countries should look more closely into their responsibility with regards to the root causes that originate migration. These two levels, often a consequence of political circumstances, strengthen the organized crime structures and put at stake the human security of migrants, leaving them defenseless and prone to exploitation, racism, xenophobia and other types of discrimination.

54. In order to achieve State security and prosperity, it is necessary to adapt the existing mechanisms that address the human dimension of migration through shared responsibility, coordination between countries of origin, transit and destination and implementation of policies that integrate security, socio-economic planning and border management while protecting human rights and the dignity of persons.

55. Furthermore, in the multilateral context, it is important to promote the ratification and full implementation of the international instruments that address the issue, such as the International Convention on the Rights of all Migrant Workers and the Members of their Families and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention).

56. It must be emphasized that regulated migration will help to the security and upholding of the stability of the State, by deterring illegal migration and combating organized crime. Migration must be analyzed through a global and comprehensive perspective, one that goes beyond borders.

57. The forthcoming High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development of the UN General Assembly offers a good opportunity for interested governments to introduce the human security dimension in the international migration debate.

V. Development and Human Security

58. While human security emerged in the context of human development, the interconnection and complementarities between both concepts and their agendas have increased. It is therefore of a great importance that an integrated approach be followed in dealing with these two concepts. In addition, high regard should be given to the notion of a people-centred approach as well as to education and lifelong learning.

59. Undeniably, the Global Human Security Fund, as proposed by the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report may serve as a crucial tool in advancing human security. However, this proposal has never been approved by the United Nations due to lack of funding and commitment. In the meantime, the United Nations Trust Fund

for Human Security (UNTFHS), established in 1999, has made significant funding for human security-related projects undertaken by UN organizations. It is vital to equip this Fund with the necessary resources and generous support so that it can be more effective.

60. In addition, it is important to ensure the implementation of national policies for development. In order to do this, there is a need for international cooperation and an increase in Official Development Assistance (ODA).

61. Development should include the following factors:
- Investment in human capital.
- Domestic savings.
- National entrepreneurship.
- Appropriate macroeconomic policies.
- Political will at the top levels.
- Efficient bureaucracies.

62. In addition to the abovementioned factors, it is also important that developed countries provide assistance to developing countries in order to perform and achieve progress. In minimizing the costs of globalisation, developing countries should take full advantage of its opportunities and exert more efforts to benefit from technology transfer.

63. Given the inter-linkage of threats and the interconnection of people's insecurities, it is of utmost importance that policies and institutions respond in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

64. In this regard, human security is of a great value due to the following reasons:
- It has an integrated approach that complements State security, enhances human rights, and strengthens human development.
- It provides a framework for regional and multilateral cooperation that aims at improving the lives of people and communities worldwide.
- It gives equal importance to civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.
- It is based on protection and empowerment.

65. In the same manner, emphasis should be placed on "downside risks" in order to ensure that the development agenda responds adequately to abject poverty, sudden economic crises and natural disasters. To mitigate these risks, all States need to invest in and prioritize activities that reduce them, for example through the integration of disaster risk reduction in development strategies, and through the promotion and pursuit of activities consistent with the Hyogo Framework adopted at the Kobe Conference in January 2005.

66. Human security suggests commitment towards "downturn with security" by adopting policies that advance human development, promote greater participation, reduce inequalities and more importantly ensure social safety nets. Moreover, it places individuals at the centre of analysis and action. It does not only try to understand the root causes of instabilities but also aims, as a social contract, at providing more security and prosperity as well as better enjoyment of human rights.

67. In the multilateral context, the UN agencies and programs, including UNHCR, OCHA and its Human Security Unit, have supported key thematic areas through the UNTFHS such as: rehabilitation and reintegration of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and economic migrants; integration of humanitarian and development assistance; enhancement of health-care services; strengthening of economic and food security, and community development, disaster response and civic engagement.

68. Additionally, it is important to ensure that the ongoing discussions on the creation of the Human Rights Council focus on all human rights (civil, political, economic, social and cultural). Additionally, development should be mainstreamed within the UN system.

VI. Civil Society and human Security

69. The concept of human security is a response to the needs of civil society throughout the world, in the fields of freedom from fear and freedom from want.

70. Currently, the main concerns regarding security are the attempts on the life and the integrity of people, in a transition from a context marked by exclusion to one in which citizens fully exercise their citizenship rights and their productive capacities.

71. The role of civil society in making the concept of human security operative consists mainly in assuming the challenges of building human capacity trough education and the promotion of renewed perceptions, as well as in pursuing new strategies to safeguard the security of people in the following areas:

- Public security: Promoting more effective judicial systems and modifying the perception that public security and the promotion of human rights are conflicting aims. Human rights are fundamental for public security. Because of this, there is a need to reframe the discussion and demonstrate the necessity of establishing complementarities between human rights and public security.
- Defining the human rights dimension in the context of terrorism: Civil society contributes by documenting abuses and searching for ways to prevent impunity for acts of terrorism. International terrorism is an example of the non-traditional security threats that are being incorporated into the new concept of State security. In this regard, the information provided by civil society is not used exclusively to expose governments, but also to put pressure on other actors that influence terrorist groups, and to encourage governments to take effective steps to protect their citizens.
- Strengthening the efforts to integrate civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights into the non governmental organizations advocacy activities: The debate on human security provides the platform for civil society groups working on issues across the spectrum of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, to come together with governments and recapture the momentum of human rights, which may have been lost after 9/11.

72. While there have been a number of international agreements on both State and individual security in general, Sates do not have the capacity to fulfill their responsibilities, mainly because of a lack of resources or institutional weaknesses

that impede them from effectively controlling the diverse sectors involved in the field of security.

73. In this regard, the empowerment of civil society is crucial in order to address the different dimensions of human security, including armed conflicts, natural disasters, diseases, discrimination and environmental pollution.

VII. Final remarks

74. The Workshop on Human Security set the stage for an open-ended, inclusive and transparent discussion among Governments, international organizations, academics and civil society on the different elements that must be taken into account to define and implement Human Security.

75. Furthermore, the participation of representatives from several regions of the world enriched the debate and demonstrated that human security is a multidimensional concept that is in constant evolution.

76. There is a growing understanding that Human Security entails the protection of individuals from threats that have a direct impact on the security of the State and of the international community.

77. Human Security lies at the core of the prevention stage of massive humanitarian crises and interlinks the empowerment of people through the areas of development, human rights and democracy.

78. Several measures have been already implemented to ensure Human Security in the national and international arenas. However, the mandate given by the World Summit Outcome Document provides a unique opportunity for future discussions within the General Assembly to define and establish the notion and the scope of the concept. These discussions will ensure the development of adequate programs to face present challenges, effective implementation of international agreements and concrete actions, as well as a coherent and coordinated action by the international community.